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Message Text

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45
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-02 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-02 INR-07 IO-10

L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SAJ-01

SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15 TRSE-00 NSC-05 ACDA-05 /080 W
---------- 066053
R 301205Z OCT 75
FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4331
INFO SECDEF WASHDC
USIA WASHDC

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, NATO, CSCE
SUBJECT: PROPOSAL FOR PUBLIC RELEASE OF INFORMATION ON WARSAW PACT MANEUVERS

REF: (A) STATE 247047; (B) STATE 254152

1. APART FROM THE ISSUE OF WARSAW PACT NON-COMPLIANCE WITH OR CIRCUMVENTION OF THE SPIRIT, IF NOT THE LETTER, OF CSCE CONFIDENCE BUILDING MEASURES (CBMS), OUR SOUNDINGS HERE SUGGEST THAT THE "MAN ON THE STREET" IN EUROPE, AND PERHAPS EVEN MORE SO IN THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES, MAY BE AWARE OF NATO COUNTRY MILITARY MANEUVERS BUT IS LIKELY TO BE UNAWARE OF MILITARY MANEUVERS CONDUCTED IN THE SOVIET UNION OR OTHER WARSAW PACT COUNTRIES.

2. MOREOVER AS REFTEL A POINTS OUT, NATO COUNTRIES HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO AWARENESS OF WESTERN MILITARY ACTIVITY THROUGH ACTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CBMS PROVISIONS. ALSO ALLIED PRESS POLICY, EMPHASIZING THE "AUTUMN FORGE" CONCEPT, MAY HAVE CONTRIBUTED THE IMPRESSION THAT NATO EXERCISES ARE LARGER THAN NORMAL THIS YEAR.

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3. THUS, WE SUGGEST IT MIGHT BE DESIRABLE, WITHOUT REFERENCE TO WP NON-COMPLIANCE OR CIRCUMVENTION OF CBMS, FOR ALLIED GOVERNMENTS TO MAKE PUBLIC AVAILABLE FACTUAL NON-SENSITIVE INFORMATION ON PACT MILITARY EXERCISES THIS YEAR. THE RELEASE

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OF SUCH FACTUAL INFORMATION WOULD NOT BE INCONSISTENT WITH A POLICY OF AVOIDING, AT THIS TIME, ALLIED ATTACKS ON THE WP RECORD ON CBMS COMPLIANCE (REFTEL B). RATHER THE OBJECTIVE WOULD BE TO SHOW THAT WP, AS WELL AS NATO, ARE CONDUCTING NORMAL LEVELS OF MILITARY EXERCISES, WHICH ARE NOT CONTRARY TO CSCE FINAL DOCUMENT.

4. IF THE DEPARTMENT AGREES, SUGGEST WE BE AUTHORIZED TO RAISE THE MATTER IN POLADS, WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF FOCUSING ALLIES ATTENTION ON THIS PUBLIC INFORMATION PROBLEM AND SEEKING THEIR COOPERATION IN RELEASING AND DISSEMINATING TO OUR PUBLICS GENERAL, NON-SENSITIVE INFORMATION ABOUT PACT MANEUVERS, AS A MEANS ALSO OF HEIGHTENING AWARENESS OF THE NEED TO MAINTAIN ALLIED DEFENSE EFFORTS.
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